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Mr. Moffat refers to certain fountains in calcareous tufa towards the middle of the country. It is found that all these fountains if cut into from a lower level will yield a perennial spring. I have seen farmers, guided by a patch of rushes, begin a deep canal a mile off, and cut up to the rushes, and so get a stream which runs the whole year. Occasionally I have seen them cut into a well that had ceased to flow, and get a constant supply of water. The Boers in the colony are enterprising and industrious, and are developing a trade in wool. Lately, Mr. Salt has sent out twenty alpacas to the Cape, which I have no doubt will succeed well. There is every probability that in the course of time it will become a more flourishing colony.

The Third Paper read was :—

Latest Accounts of the Fate of Dr. Vogel.

Communicated by the Right Hon. the EARL of CLARENDON, K.G., F.R.G.S., Foreign Office.

MY LORD,

Alexandria, October 23, 1857.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Hammond's despatch, Consular No. 8 of the 9th ultimo, instructing me to direct the British Vice-Consul at Khartum to make all possible inquiries as to the fate of Dr. Vogel, the African traveller, and in the event of its being ascertained that Dr. Vogel is in a state of captivity, to authorize the Vice-Consul to adopt the most effectual measures he can devise, and if necessary to offer a ransom, for Dr. Vogel's release.

I immediately transmitted the necessary instructions to Mr. Vice-Consul Petherick at Khartum; but having since learnt that there is an ambassador from the King of Darfur to the Viceroy of Egypt, now at Cairo, I have, through Mr. Messarra, the Dragoman of this Consulate-General, been in communication with that personage, and I transmit a report of a verbal statement made by the Ambassador of Darfur to Mr. Messarra, which I fear almost places beyond a doubt the reported murder of Dr. Vogel by the King of Wadai.*

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

G. GREEN.

The Earl of Clarendon, &c.

Verbal Statement of SAID MOHAMET SAANGHITI, Ambassador from the King of Darfur to the Viceroy of Egypt.

Cairo, 19th October, 1857.

Before my departure from Darfur I was informed by several persons (natives of Senegal) that three European travellers, under the names of Abdul Carim, Abdul Wahed, and Abdul Samad, had arrived from Bengazi at Fezzan, and from thence to Bornu, where they met Seik Umar, the prince governing that district, who received them very well, and gave them letters of recommendation to the governors of Begharum, Mandara, Adamao, Houssa, and Malla, provinces inde-

* See Proceedings R. G. S., No. I., vol. ii., p. 30.—ED.

pendent of each other. Abdul Carim, who was the chief, sent Abdul Wahed to the east, that is to say, to Beghami, and other places in that direction ; Abdul Samad went towards the south, that is to say, towards Mandara and Adamao ; and Abdul Carim in person proceeded towards Houssa and Malla.

Abdul Carim, on leaving Bornu, proceeded to Zandar, where he formed a friendship with a scerif, named Abdul Azig ben Saleh, with whom he left all his money and effects, and departed for Timbuctu, and attempted to enter Malla, where they were inclined to kill him ; but he was protected by a man of influence, named Seik el Baccaï, of Timbuctu, who escorted him with a number of persons, and enabled him to visit the whole province of Malla, conducted him safe out of the same, and caused him to be escorted by a certain Sed Ahmed Uadawi, and some other eight persons, back to Bornu ; where he found that Abdul Rahman had usurped the kingdom of his brother Umar, and had plundered everything, among which were the possessions of the scerif Abdul Aziz ; whereupon Abdul Carim demanded of Abdul Rahman that he should restore to him the property he had deposited with that scerif, which was accordingly restored to him. After waiting at Bornu some time for the return of his companions, and not seeing them appear, he departed for Bengazi, or Senegal, to return to his own country, after his great fatigues and perils, having obtained his object, of taking representations of all the most remarkable things, and the most interesting views of the interior of Africa.

Abdul Wahed (Dr. Vogel) departed from Bornu for Bagirmi, where he was well received ; and, after having well visited all localities as he wished, he proceeded to Madagu, and from thence passed to Borgu, that is to say, Waday, where he met the vizir of the prince of Wadai, named Simalek, who treated him well. He afterwards entered the interior of that province to the capital city called Wara, where the Prince Sciaraf, so called Sultan of Waday, who is now paralytic, resides ; but in the neighbourhood of Wara there is a sacred mountain, the ascent of which is prohibited to all persons. Abdul Wahed, whether informed of this or not, ascended this sacred mountain ; and when the prince learnt it, he ordered him to be put to death, and so it was. The intelligence of this reached Darfur about seven months ago. When Mohamet Hassan, King of Darfur, heard it, he was much displeased, and sent to reprove the Prince of Waday, otherwise Borgu.

In respect to the third, *i. e.*, Abdul Samad, nothing has been heard, but neither of these three ever reached Darfur.

DR. BARTH, F.R.G.S.—The statement of that Arab (the messenger of the King of Dár-Fúr) contains accurate information about the routes which we pursued, and even gives correctly the names of those very men who gave me protection. With regard to what is stated about Dr. Vogel's final fate, there is no doubt that he was well received on his arrival at Wará. Whether he went direct from Bornú, or went round the north side of Lake Chad, I do not know; but from the contents of the letter received by H.M.'s Consul at Tripoli from the Sheikh of Borgú, I am inclined to suppose that he took the latter road. At all events, it seems that in the beginning he wanted to avoid Wadái, because a civil war had been raging there. I recommended him to stay at the capital of Bagirmi, the ruler of which country I had befriended, till a messenger might arrive from the King of Wadái to take him safely to Wára. But after leaving Bagirmi and visiting the provinces of Fittri and Middogo, he seems to have gone to the north of Wadái to a place called *Wadi Orádha*, and I suppose the King of Wadái sent messengers to the place to fetch him. At least such is the statement contained in the letter of the Sheikh of Borgú, in which, however, I do not place implicit confidence. There is certainly a holy hill in Wára, the capital of Wadái, just over the palace. Wára is enclosed by two hilly chains, on the east and west side, leaving only two narrow entrances, one from the north and the other from the south. The king's palace is on the slope of the eastern chain; and on the top is said to be a holy hut, where every new king must reside for seven days. Whether it be true that Vogel wanted to enter this place, in order to investigate its nature, and was executed for the attempt, as alleged, I do not know, but think rather improbable; although I must say, that I myself at present entertain little hope that the courageous traveller be still alive. It would be a great pity if his interesting journals at least should not be saved. His papers, as far as they were taken home by Corporal Macguire, who is stated to have been slain at the well Belkashi farri, six days' journey from Kuka, if they were not destroyed on the spot, may have got into the hands of some of the chiefs connected with the tribe of the Kél-owí, the inhabitants of the country of Aïr, although those freebooters who continually infest the road from Bornú to Fezzán do not acknowledge the supremacy of those chiefs. I do not expect that the chief of Bornú will be able to do anything in this respect, because of the Tawárek, who infest those roads, being his greatest enemies. But I think the chiefs of the Kél-owí, through whose territory we passed in going to Negro-land, would be more likely to succeed in endeavouring to get some of them back—provided they were not destroyed on the spot or scattered about. I myself, on my former journey, was robbed, after serious fighting, of all my property; and although this had happened on the border of the territories of the Bashá of Tripoli, and of Mohammed Ali of Egypt, both of whom had secured me their protection, I have seen again neither the smallest scrap of my papers nor any of my things.

Fourth Meeting, Monday, January 11th, 1858.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS.—*Dr. Wm. Camps and the Rev. A. P. Moor were presented on their election.*

ELECTIONS.—*J. H. Baxendale, Esq.; G. Bonner, Esq.; Lord Viscount Bury, M.P.; Lord Claremont; Chichester Fortescue, Esq. M.P.; G. Grote, Esq.; Edward Hertslet, Esq.; Captain Sir Wm. Hoste, Bart., R.N.; Captain*